



# the Nation

Volume 2, No. 14 • June 30, 1995

*every two weeks*

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Dad, you were always gentle to your children.  
Dad, you always spoke wisely and gently.

Dad, you taught me to respect our Mother Earth,  
For we are her children and she loves us.  
Dad, you taught me to respect the animals,  
For they are the ones that keep us from hunger.  
Dad, you taught me to respect my Elders, and  
To other people from all walks of life.  
Dad, you taught me to love and to forgive others,  
No matter what they have done.  
Dad, you taught me not to judge others,  
No matter what they do.

Dad, you taught me to accept life as it is,  
And to take care of the life the Creator gave me.  
Dad, never once did I hear you complain about life.  
Dad, you taught me so many life's precious things.  
Dad, you were a wise teacher, a provider and a father.  
I couldn't have asked for a better "Dad."  
Dad, the Creator called you back to go home to his kingdom,  
So you can rest. Because your job was done here, on Earth.  
Now, it is my turn to pass these wise teachings to your grandchildren.  
Sometimes, they ask where you are, I tell them,  
You have gone back home to our Creator to rest.

I miss you Dad, but you will live on in my heart.  
And I know that some day, we'll cross each other's paths again.  
But for now, I have to wait and finish what I came here for.

Your loving daughter, and grandsons,  
*Vera, Duane, Jonathan & Sebastien*

## CONTENTS

### NEWS

- 5 CREES, FEDS TO INK DEAL  
COMMUNITIES GET MORE FUNDS
- 5 ANTI-LOGGING CAMPAIGN  
TALK OF A BLOCKADE
- 7 NORTHERN PULLS OUT  
MIXED FEELINGS IN MISTISSINI
- 7 BRIEFS O. J. WINS AWARD,  
MISTISSINI B-BALL ON THE ROAD

### COVER

- 10 TRAVIS GRANT  
SLAP SHOT CLOCKED AT 60 MPH

### CULTURE

- 12 MARGARET CROMARTY  
GOOSE BREAK

### INTERVIEW

- 13 SHEILA WATT CLOUTIER  
FOCUSED ON CHANGE

### YOUTH

- 19 KATEJUN COONISHISH  
MOTO-XING PRODIGY
- 19 O. J. KIDS GO CRAZY  
OVER NEW PLAYGROUND

### GUIDE

- 21 GUIDE TO MONTREAL  
FIRST IN A SERIES

COVER PHOTO  
Travis Grant in Laval  
Photographer: Neil Diamond.

JUNE 30, 1995





## AN ABSENCE OF ETHICS

Government for the people by the people. This is the theory of democracy and why we should vote. We vote to choose candidates who will represent us. In fact, the Crees take the theory of democracy just a little farther when we choose delegates once a year to send to the Grand Council/CRA Annual General Assembly.

During this time, we look at the past actions of the GCCQ/CRA and ratify them. The Cree delegates also do something else that is very important. They pass mandates, resolutions and give direction to the GCCQ/CRA that will affect our future. In this way the people exercise greater control over their government through a process of democratic rule.

But are all the mandates and resolutions carried out?

I know of one that hasn't been. Some readers might remember one of the earlier stories I did when we started *The Nation* entitled, "Where have all the ethics gone?" This article was about a mandate given to the GCCQ/CRA to develop an ethics guideline within six months for Cree Band Councils, organizations and entities and the people who work within them.

Six months passed and a draft was drawn up but strangely it never made it back to a GCCQ/CRA Annual General Assembly. That was in 1989. And now in 1995, I imagine the ethics guidelines are lying on some dusty shelf forgotten but waiting for the mandate to be fulfilled.

I personally feel that these guidelines are important for the Cree future.

Our population is growing fast. There will come a time when Crees will not know each political candidate or person within a Cree Band Council, organization or entity personally. This is why we should work now to ensure we have policies and controls in place.

Also there are many non-Cree consultants and workers within Cree organizations and entities. Most don't fully understand Cree needs and Crees may not really understand what they may be capable of because of misunderstanding or deliberate intent. I'm sure that 99.9 per cent of these people are as honest as the day is long but what about that .1 per cent? It would be good to have ethics guidelines that reflect not only our culture but also ensure fewer misunderstandings or abuse of Cree needs.

An ethics guideline would also help Crees wearing more than one hat (i.e. in more than one organization) by letting them know what the Cree people as a whole consider appropriate behavior. There are many potential conflicts of interest inherent in this practice of having more than one position per person. Ethics guidelines would help to eliminate possible abuse or misunderstandings.

The Cree people wish to address these problems and are starting to do so on their own. In Waswanipi an inquiry into potential conflict of interest has been voted upon and ratified by the people at a general assembly.

These are just a few of the reasons why Crees as a whole should act now with preventive measures to ensure control of the Cree Nation's future.

While most draft copies of the ethics guidelines are lost in the backrooms, I happen to have one in my possession which I'm more than willing to share with any delegate to this year's GCCQ/CRA Annual General Assembly for their consideration.

by William Nicholls

*the Nation*

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THE NATION IS PUBLISHED  
EVERY TWO WEEKS BY  
BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS  
PRINTED BY QUEBECOR INC.



PLEASE SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

### PRODUCTION OFFICE

5678 PARC AVE.  
P.O. BOX 48036  
MONTREAL  
CANADA, H2V 4S8

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### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

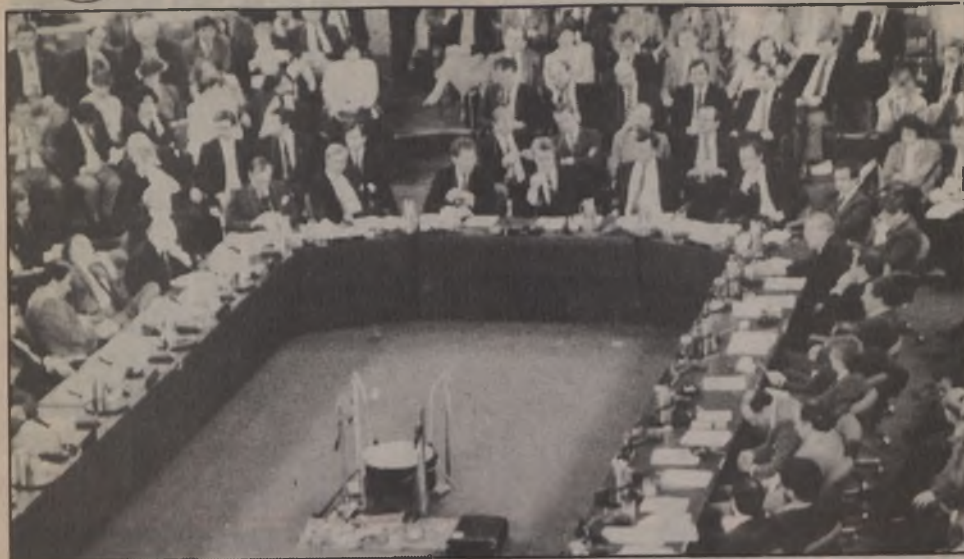
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## CREES, FEDS SET TO SIGN FUNDING DEAL

Crees are on the verge of signing a major new agreement with the federal government to provide Cree communities with better operations and maintenance funding.

These funds cover a lot of things the Cree communities require—salaries for Chiefs and band employees, maintenance of public buildings, equipment and utilities, public safety, police and fire services.

The agreement also covers programs like housing, road and walkway maintenance, environmental health, public health, culture and recreation, benefits and financial counseling, environment and land management, and economic development.

For years, Crees and Ottawa have disagreed on the amount the feds contribute in O&M funds. The federal government refused to provide increases sought by the Cree communities to meet their growing needs.

In the mid-1980s, the battle went to the courts. In an out-of-court settlement reached in 1988, both sides agreed to start negotiations on a new five-year agreement.

But those negotiations never took place because the feds refused to implement the out-of-court agreement.

Instead, for seven years the only increases Crees saw were made to cover inflation and increases in population. It was never tied to the growing financial needs of the communities, which have seen many changes in the last 10 years.

The agreement was discussed at a Chiefs' meeting and a meeting of local directors of operations in June. The directors of operations

apparently reacted very positively to the news of the impending agreement. The Council Board of the Grand Council/CRA has already approved the agreement. It only needs the approval of the federal Treasury Board before the official signing.

In another development, the recent Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Quebec government has seen some unexpected responses to Cree requests.

Chiefs recently met a Quebec negotiator to request funding for specific projects—a youth center, housing, paved roads and Elders' homes. The Chiefs also wanted Quebec to reimburse Cree communities for compensation money they had to spend to provide basic services to the Crees, services that Quebec provides to all other residents.

Except for one, all the requests made at this meeting were considered ineligible. Only old-age housing for Elders was considered eligible.

Quebec's negotiator said the MOU only covers basic services and programs. The Cree requests didn't fall into any funding category, Chiefs were told. The request for reimbursement of Cree money met with a "well, too bad for you" attitude.

This is ironic given that Quebec itself has asked Ottawa to reimburse it for money it spent on Cree post-secondary education. Yet, Quebec is saying that the Cree request for a reimbursement isn't possible.

This is not sitting well with some Chiefs who expected a much more favourable attitude from Quebec after the recent signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.

by Will Nicholls

## CREES LAUNCH ANTI-LOGGING CAMPAIGN

After battling Hydro-Quebec to a standstill, Crees are fixing their sights on the logging companies.

With frustration about clearcutting running at an all-time high, southern Cree communities and CRA are busy planning a campaign on forestry.

Thanks to Quebec's notoriously lax rules on logging, forestry companies have already clearcut 50 per cent of the forests in the Waswanipi Territory. Many traplines are completely devoid of trees.

"We're tackling this issue head-on," said Jack Blacksmith, coordinator of the Cree Forestry Working Group.

"It's about time somebody did."

Many Waswanipi trappers are calling for a road blockade to put muscle behind the Cree campaign.

Chief William Mianscum says there is growing "resentment" in Mistissini over indiscriminate clearcutting. "When they cut, they have complete disregard for what the trappers want."

He described how one forestry company pretended to consult trappers about where to cut and then went on to log in areas sensitive to Crees anyway.

"When the cutting started that's when people realized that they have no respect for me. They're cutting where I told them not to cut. Now, people are reluctant even to meet with them."

The forestry working group was created by the Council Board in January and has held meetings in April and June. It has representatives from Waswanipi, Ouje-Bougoumou, Mistissini, Waskaganish and Nemaska.

Those representatives are now consulting people in their communities about how they want to fight the logging. These concerns will be brought back to the next meeting of the working group at the end of July.

Blacksmith said Crees don't want to shut down the logging operations, just protect their land and way of life. "Some of our traplines are being totally logged out," he said. "They've always thought the trees are limitless, but I think they know now that's not the case."

—Alex Roslin





Cree Nation of Chisasibi

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### Coming On CBC TV Maamuitaau

#### July 1 and 2

**Maamuitaau** presents part three in the series documenting the traditional life of three Mistassini families as they live off the land. In addition, we'll look at education...traditional Cree lifestyles and non-native. Also a vignette featuring Elizabeth Shasheweskum explaining the ancient belief that afterbirth was thought to keep people from harms way when in or near water.

#### July 8 and 9

**Maamuitaau** presents the first-part special, "Maamu Nikamutaau." Recorded live at Wemindji, this major Cree musical festival draws talented acts from throughout the James Bay Region. Entertainers including Kenny Mianscum, Johnny T. Georgekish, Miiyobin, Pekasso Mukash, Miigwin, Chiistin, Larry Wapachee and others perform a variety of musical styles, from modern to traditional.

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## TOXIC SITE IN LIMBO AS NORTHERN LEAVES

After 200 years in Mistissini, the store now run by Northern is packing it in.

The North West Co. decided to close its store after Mistissini decided July 1 to turn down the company's request for \$1 million to keep the store open.

Chief William Mianscum said Northern can't be bailed out when struggling local businesses are told to make it on their own. "To come in and throw \$1 million to Northern, that wouldn't have looked good at all," he said.

"I have mixed feelings (about the departure). I was thinking back to how the Bay (Northern's predecessor) was set up off the sweat of the brow of our own ancestors—just thinking of how our people really built this company.

"Perhaps the people who will be hurt most will be the Elders in the community."

Ten permanent jobs will be lost when the store shuts its doors July 7. Northern tried for two years to convince the Band Council to join it in a joint venture and spend \$900,000 to \$1 million on renovations to the aging building. The company claimed it was losing \$200,000 every year in Mistissini.

Last year, Winnipeg-based North West Co. reported \$586 million in sales, with a profit of \$16 million.

Chief Mianscum said the Cree-Naskapi Act prevents Cree bands from entering joint ventures on a commercial basis.

He also expressed concern about who will clean up a toxic chunk of lakeside Category III property owned by Northern. Gas depots have made this the most polluted site in James Bay, a study has found.

Northern refuses to say if it

will help pay for a cleanup. "I think that's a point that could be debated," said Jim Deyell, Northern's regional manager.

"Depending on what Northern wants to do," responded Chief Mianscum, "it could be a quiet closing of an era, or maybe they want to go out with a bang."

He said Northern's problems started when a Caisse Populaire was set up in Mistissini, costing Northern its monopoly control over the community's money. Plus, Northern didn't do enough to keep customers coming back, despite the growth in Crees' disposable income over the last 20 years, said the Chief.

Deyell said another problem was growing competition from Chibougamau and locally-owned Meechum Store. "It leads to the consumer having a heyday. If you go to a competitive situation like that we can't survive," he said.

Asked whether Northern was engaged in a price war with Meechum, Deyell said, "We have a large investment in the communities and we have to protect that. We will meet competition. We will not start a price war because it's not a win situation."

Is he sad about leaving? "We had to make a decision based on economics in the end," he said. "But for that length of time (the 200 years), yes, the Elders, we've had a long association with them."

Chief Mianscum said the pullout creates interesting economic opportunities for Mistissini. Some options: setting up a general co-op store; helping current Northern employees set up a new store; or moving other businesses into the building.

The community will discuss its options at an upcoming seminar organized by the band.

by Alex Roslin



## OJAY WINS UN AWARD

It's official. Ouje-Bougoumou has won the UN's 50 Communities Award.

To mark the UN's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, awards are being given to 50 communities around the world that best exemplify the objectives of the United Nations. Ouje-Bougoumou won an award for sustainable development and "human settlement."

The community was praised for its environmentally friendly heating and hot water system, its innovative housing program and architecture.

"We are very pleased that Ouje-Bougoumou has been chosen," says the letter informing the community it won. "We believe that they have inspiring lessons to offer to the world."

"Ouje-Bougoumou is a vindication of what Aboriginal people have been saying for years about self-government," said Chief Abel Bosum in a statement. "Give us the tools and you will see an enormous release of creative energies directed at building healthy, sustainable communities which are viably sound for us and economically beneficial for the governments as well.

"This award is also a confirmation that Aboriginal philosophies and values which stress conservation and the importance of community are relevant to the construction of modern settlements."

The community is raising funds to send representatives to a ceremony in New York in September where the award will be formally presented.

—Nation staff

## CREE NATION BROOMBALL TEAM

Just to let everyone know that for the first time a Mistissini juvenile broomball team was invited to participate in Quebec City in the Quebec Provincial Championship 1995, that took place April 14-16.

They entered in a contact category and they only had three weeks of practice of how to play contact and to try to get them ready. They played two games during the tournament. The first game they lost 1-0 in overtime against Sud Ouest and the second game they lost 3-0 against Montreal.

It was a very good performance and we got good results from the organizing committee. We got invited to another

briefs continued on page 9



The Cree Nation Youth  
Council of Waswanipi hosts



## ABORIGINAL YOUTH GATHERING OF QUEBEC

### DATE:

August 15, 16, 17 of 1995  
(Travel days the 14th and 18th)

### LOCATION:

Waswanipi, Quebec  
at the cultural village (Innu Opemiska Chewa)

### THEME:

*'In the name of our ancestors  
with respect for our elders  
honouring and strengthening  
each other as Aboriginal Youth'*

### PURPOSE:

Is to gather all aboriginal youth, elders and invited guests mostly from the province of Quebec to discuss common interests. Promote & foster good working relations amongst aboriginal youth.

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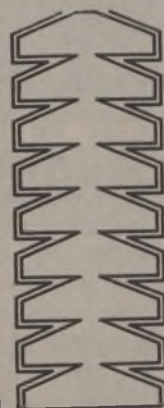
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continued from page 7

tournament in Ste-Agathe August 25-27 and the North American Championship Dec. 8-10.

At this time we are in the planning stage of getting the "Cree Nation Team" to represent the Abitibi region. If anyone needs any information or is interested in trying out for the Cree Nation Juvenile Broomball Team ages 16-18, you can contact the Cree Nation of Mistissini at (418) 923-3461 and ask for Hugo Cowboy, recreation coordinator, or Thomas Neeposh, director of operations.

—Hugo Cowboy

## SUMMIT CRASHED

World leaders meeting in Halifax had their summit crashed by National Chief Ovide Mercredi and several dozen protesters in June.

"If this embarrasses the government, it's nothing compared to the pain our people experience because of their policies," said Chief Mercredi.

"The embarrassment is nothing compared to the fact that we have young people committing suicide, people living in poverty and the government of Canada has yet to fill their treaty obligations."

After a noisy march through the city, Chief Mercredi and the chanting, drum-beating protesters attempted to make their way into the "red zone," a heavily-guarded, barricaded area where the summit was being held. They were ordered to stop by plainclothes Mounties.

Chief Mercredi noticed that white people had been allowed into the red zone. "Is the red zone for red people like me?" he asked a Mountie, and kept going. Police jumped in front of Ovide and he couldn't get any further.

—Nation staff

## INUIT MP SCOLDS BLOC

The Bloc Quebecois has insulted Canadians by saying Inuktitut shouldn't be used in the House of Commons, says Jack Anawak, Inuk MP for Nunavut.

Anawak came under fire from Bloc MP Pierrette Venne when he addressed Parliament in Inuktitut before translating his comments into English.

"The member talked to us in a language I don't know and I don't understand," Venne told the House. "I'd like to know if we must continue to



NEIL DIAMOND

Will Nicholls, Ernest Webb & Alex Roslin accepting awards from Q.C.N.A. President Al Davis.

listen. As far as I know, this does not constitute one of the official languages."

Venne questioned the House of Commons policy that allows MPs to use any language. She wondered whether "members who might be of Ukrainian or German origin could speak in their mother tongues?"

Anawak routinely speaks in Inuktitut before translating his comments into English. "The Inuktitut language is 4,000 years old in Canada and the English and French languages are mere hundreds of years old," he said in response.

"They (the Bloc), of all people, should understand exactly how it feels to be a minority. (Venne) should understand very clearly where we're trying to go as a minority in Canada."

—Nation staff

## USE SPITZNAGENN

"Many Aboriginal people, whether we are Indian, Inuit or Metis, travel. Oh yes we do, from Here to There, from North to South, from East to West, from Urban to Rural to Reserve, from the dirt roads and small houses to the big lights and sounds of the City. And then, back home again, with memories and sometimes more... Yes, sometimes more! HIV/AIDS... can kill you!"

So says a pamphlet released by the Urban Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Project. It advises you to be cautious, practice safer sex and to use condoms and clean needles. "Be respectful of life, the

great circle around you."

For more info call or write: Marcel DuBois, 3730 Cote-des-Neiges, Montreal, Qc. H3H 1V6. Tel.: (514) 937-5338

—Nation staff

## NORTH IMPRESSES KOHL

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl seemed open to First Nations concerns about fur exports after a three-day visit to three Baffin Island communities in June.

"We have to consider their interests and the effects of our decisions," Kohl told a German TV crew. "We have to talk about it again in the European community. I see these people are very concerned about their nature and environment."

Kohl seemed to have a near-religious experience during the visit. "The sheer size and vastness of the landscape, the open space—I think that here, you feel closer to the Creation as Lord has intended it and how he has handed it down to us as a gift," he said.

The European Parliament votes next month on whether to allow Canadian furs to be imported.

"We have become very dependent on government programs since seal skin prices became worth nothing," said local NWT assembly member Rebecca Mike in one news report. "I don't want to harass the chancellor or anything. I just want to talk about reality here."

Last year, she said 960,000 furs were sold compared to 6 million furs in 1988.

—Nation staff





# HOCKEY AND TRAVIS GRANT

By William Nicholls

While most of the Cree hockey fans and players turned into couch potatoes glued to the boob tube, rumours reached *The Nation* that not everyone was just watching the Stanley Cup finals. No, there was one young lad still going strong.



So like Travis Grant of Waswanipi, Neil and I gave up our weekend for some hockey. We were off to wonderful Laval with its wonderfully half-hidden arenas. Turned out we had that in common with Travis and his family... getting lost in sunny Laval. A couple of wrong turns, plenty of helpful directions from some nice people and we managed to catch up with Travis.

We got a chance to see Travis and his amazing slapshot in action as his team was winning the Laval All Star Challenge 1995 Summer Hockey Tournament. Did I mention his amazing slapshot? It was clocked at 60 miles per hour, making him the fastest slapshot artist in his age group for all of Quebec for 1994/95. He won that distinction in Repentigny this past spring. Even as a novice player, he was clocked at almost 55 MPH.

While Travis spent the winter playing for Chibougamau, this weekend he was playing for the Turcotte Elite team. Did we mention that he won player of the year while playing for Chibougamau? Did we mention this was just one of over 20 trophies on his wall? Did we mention he's only 10 and playing for the Turcotte Elite Atom AAA team? Well, I think we mentioned the team but not the other stuff.

Back to the team. Turns out that the team is a hockey school team. The name of the school is Turcotte and Travis has been attending it for the last three years. He is one of four Crees to make the team since Crees have started using the school. Travis said the school has taught him "a lot of moves!"

Travis Grant said his being the only Cree on the team made no difference to him or other players. The school itself has been to Chisasibi and Waskaganish. The Triple A Team has won 27 out of the 42 tournaments it has entered into since 1991. Travis was one of the 15 players chosen from 400 tryouts this year.

Travis Grant is one of the kids who are lucky. His father, Jos Saganash, was and still is a great hockey player, who along with his wife supports Travis and his budding hockey career.





## —AN EXPLOSIVE MIX

We got a chance to see the beginnings of that career in action. On a hot, hot, really hot Montreal day running about 31 degrees Celsius Neil and I stepped into the Laval Ovest Arena. Did I mention we were underdressed for such an activity?

Travis, though, was dressed for the part and played well. The final score was 5-4 in the Turcotte Elites' favour. Travis didn't get a chance to play as much as the team coach would have liked due to an injury as well as his being sick at the time.

Travis saw four goals and four assists in this tournament. We asked him how he felt after winning. He said, "Winning the tournament was fun!" It's nice to see that underneath all that skill and potential is just another kid having fun.

His games as a player with Chibougamau point to a great year for him. Travis told us this year he had four goals and 31 points while with Chibougamau. I asked him what his best game was overall this year. Travis liked the semi-finals in Montreal when he got three goals and a total of five points in one game.

After the game we talked a bit more, learning that Travis' favourite team is the Detroit Redwings and his favourite player is Sergei Federov because of his scoring ability. Some day he might be up there with Sergei as a hockey hero in the NHL.

Travis Grant wouldn't mind that particular career and has the full support of his parents in it. Currently Travis's parents have to take on the financial costs of these tournaments. The next and last one for the year will be Ottawa. *The Nation* wishes Travis all the luck in the world.

Sometimes in the communities we give more recognition to older players and forget about the Travis Grants and other kids. This should change because a little community recognition would go a long way toward keeping them on the road to success.

How would we start? Well, as Travis put it when we asked what advice he'd give to newcomers to hockey... "Just do it!"

**The Turcotte school can be reached at 1-800-565-3433. Sessions start in July.**



PHOTOS BY NEIL DIAMOND

Travis with parents, Jos & Eva, after advancing to the Semi-finals.







# GOOSE BREAK



PAUL M. RICKARD

*WHEN GOOSE BREAK COMES THOUGHTS TURN TO TRADITIONAL HUNTING GROUNDS AND EVEN THOUGH MOST OF TODAY CREES MAY LIVE IN HOUSES THE EXCITEMENT OF A GOOSE BREAK IS STILL THERE.*

*WHEN THINKING OF GOOSE BREAK IT IS QUITE COMMON TO THINK OF ROAST GOOSE AND BANNOCK, TEEPEES AND BROWN MEN, VERY BROWN BY THE WAY BECAUSE THE SUN SHINES A LOT AT GOOSE BREAK.*

And to live is valued like centuries ago. It is difficult to imagine our tradition without patience and perseverance at Goose Break.

Why we have a Goose Break, it is a reminder of harder times and it helps make us thankful to fill our days with a little hard work and a little respite from modern convenience that Crees today pursue, the leisurely lifestyle some Crees enjoy. When we go on a Goose Break I am up early and ready for action. My family is still sleeping. I hate packing. It always seems I take too much of useless things.

And leave behind the important essentials. Naturally I discover I am packing quickly and too much. My packing involves food and clothing and other stuff that concerns daily life at Goose Break camp.

My late mother never missed a chance to make a little go a long way. Unfortunately it's quite hard for me being modern to fill the shoes of my wonderful mother. However every Goose Break I do believe the spark is still there.

While looking over my large pile of belongings that I was going to take into the bush I began to wonder who is this crazy lady packing too much stuff? But this is not an overnight trip, I remind myself. It would be wise to skip my new red coat and take the old grey coat instead.

I am doing a fine job combining traditional and original ideas in packing stuff to the bush. No doubt my family would not be overly excited when they see the large pile of stuff we are going to take to our Goose Break camp. I am surrounded by added boxes of things we need, I say, but I am not allowed to bring everything.

My husband says, I suggest you bring the modern kitchen stove as well.

**Margaret Cromarty**  
**May 25, 1995**





# THE SPIRIT IS GOING FULL FORCE

by Alex Roslin



NEIL DIAMOND

There is a revolution going on at Makivik Corp. and her name is Sheila Watt Cloutier. Elected Corporate Secretary on March 31, Sheila is already planning big changes. She is honest, direct and has no use for the "games" and "political lingo" we sometimes see in organizations like hers.

The sister of Charlie Watt, she also isn't shy about making a stand. "Sometimes in order for us to really make our stance, we have to be almost overassertive because our families, our parents, were underreactive," she says.

Her passion is the Inuit youth. Despite the many problems the youth face, she finds they are full of hope and inspiration. "There is a real movement among (the youth) where the spirit is just going full force."

Sheila has a lot to say that is relevant to Crees too. Like many Cree parents, she wants Inuit kids to be taught their culture in all parts of the school curriculum, not just three times a week for 50 minutes.

Another concern: out of over 350 jobs at Inuit entities in Montreal, only 48 are held by Inuit people.

"I think we have to be not just building structures. We have to be building people. And that's going to be key to our self-government."

## **The Nation: What was your election platform?**

Sheila Watt Cloutier: I had a few. The key ones I had were in the area of youth issues because that's an area that's pretty close to my domain. And it's one I feel is one of the key elements in the situation of the high suicide rate and all the problems that are happening.

I think we really have to focus in on how we can help at the leadership level to get healing and empowerment going for the youth. Sixty per cent of our nation is under 25. They're our upcoming leaders so we really have to work on making sure they're going to be okay.

## **What can you do with the job you have now?**

The transfer just happened very recently, a couple of weeks ago. The department of youth and training used to fall under someone else's responsibility (*Mark T. Gordon, economic development*), so I was kind of rallying to get that under me. Now I've got youth and training under my responsibility so I can promote ideas and programs and projects that are in line with the kind of things I talk about.

## **What are other aspects of your new job?**

I'm still carrying the education file, which I did even in the other position, but I didn't want to let it go. (*As Makivik's education resource person, Sheila's job was to monitor implementation of the recommendations of the Nunavik Educational Task Force.*) I sit on a committee of 10 people from different organizations and we ensure that the changes are going to happen.

All too often, too many reports have been written, and then they sit on shelves and nothing gets implemented. So we didn't want that happening to this situation. It's too important.

## **So there's education, youth and training...**

And then there's Avataq, our cultural institute, which is nice too because it kind of goes hand-in-hand with education. And some of the things I promote a lot is getting back to our roots and our culture. With our education system, (we should be) creating a foundation that is based on our culture, rather than adding it on to an existing system that we didn't define.

## **What projects do you have in mind in terms of culture?**

I don't have anything specific yet, but a lot of it would be through schools because schools are the place that handle the majority of our children on a daily basis. There should be a very strong curriculum where culture is interwoven in a very integrated and holistic way through all the subjects whether it be math, history, geography, whatever.

And not just as a culture class three times a week for 50 minutes. That just doesn't work. It's not effective at all and it almost becomes

continued on page 15





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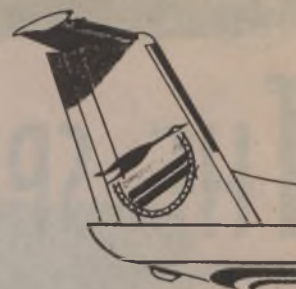
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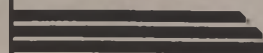
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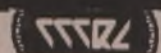
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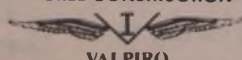
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# THE SPIRIT IS GOING FULL FORCE...



NEIL DIAMOND

a joke because it just doesn't do any effective empowering of the kids.

## So all these things focus on the youth.

Yes, they are our future. We've got to get the youth going. Sixty per cent, that's a big percentage. And having, as we know, the highest suicide rate in this country, and in Nunavik we even have the highest among all the other Native groups in Canada. And it wouldn't be surprising at all if it were the highest in North America. If we're losing them that quickly, then who are we planning self-government for?

## What reasons do you think there are for that problem?

My understanding as an Inuk and I've gone through my own soul-searching as well as having worked in education with the youth and in the area of addictions as well—I would say it started from the time we gave away our powers. When we gave away our powers, we really thought these people coming in had all the answers. And in doing so we just lost every bit of our freedom skills. As a result of that, the social problems started to happen very quickly for us.

I mean things have changed dramatically. The first 10 years of my life we were still travelling by dog team. And then within a

five-year span we were into ski-doo's. And we're not going back a long ways. We've got our guys now who didn't have that kind of historical background in machinery and technology going off to Finland, guys from my hometown in fact. They're racing high-tech machines and coming in second.

That's the kind of stuff I'd like to harness. And we never saw arenas up until, what, 15 years ago, and yet our guys play like pros now and are beating Japan. It's just awesome. That's the kind of stuff I'd like to harness because I remember traditionally what we were like. We had that strength and resilience and resourcefulness and wisdom to survive any odds. Because if we didn't have that strong traditional wisdom we would never have survived a day, much less all these thousands of years.

So it's to be able to gain back those personal powers and solidify it with our cultural roots—empowering people and gaining back that self-esteem and making change so we can become drivers once again and not just the passenger.

Because we've just literally given the driver's seat to somebody else and as a result just became very lost in the whole process.

## How do you think it happened?

Everything happened so quickly and we just gave away all that power thinking the other people had a better solution for us. And then what happens is when institutions take over like that we become more and more dependent, and we forget how to be independent.

And I don't mean dependencies just from substances, but dependencies from the welfare system, the unemployment and it just goes on and on. And when you deplete your powers that way, you just don't have that sense of self to begin with, and despair just sets in and addictions become worse and you don't know how to get back out of that rut.

## Do you think right now there's a movement to change that which the youth are a part of?

Absolutely. They are the ones I've been really impressed by these past two or three years in particular. Because there's a lot of movement from the youth to say, okay, we're not perfect, we've got problems of our own, but we see what has to get done and we're trying to do something about it. There's a lot of movement in that area. They're getting youth committees going and now they've got the national committee going as well.

I was asked to speak at their conference in Kuujuaq last November and I was very impressed. You would swear these guys had been at it for years. These guys had this huge conference, just like an AGM would be.

Everybody was there every day and they had something to say. And it was even nicer because they weren't playing politics so much like the adult world does. They just came and said things straight from their hearts. And there was no real games being played. It was just call a spade a spade and let's see what we

can do to help.

So as much as I say the statistics are high and our young people are in a kind of victim state, a despairing state, there is a real movement among that group where the spirit is just going full force.

## Do you think there's changes that have to be made internally?

Sure, lots. Because what happens is as

continued on page 16





# THE SPIRIT IS GOING FULL FORCE...

the problems of our communities increase, these institutions have thrived. They've become bigger and bigger, with bigger funding, bigger personnel. It's really interesting to see—they grow with the problem rather than alleviating the problem. So you get more and more social problems, more police, new court halls. And you're thinking you can't do that any more because that just doesn't do anything to stop the problem. It just in fact will add to it.

So there has to be a whole different way to look at these things. And a whole different way of how can we help people break free?

But you know there's a problem with that in a sense, because it's not always so easy to be free. There's a lot of difficulty with that. Breaking free myself of various things in my life, I can really tell you with a lot of honesty it's very hard to be free. You have to then be constantly responsible for your life. And you have to check in every single day with what you're doing and how you're doing it.

It takes a lot of effort. Sometimes it's easier for someone to look after you. So you have to get that motivation into people and these institutions, depending who's really pulling the strings. Sometimes if they empower people it's a conflict of interest. Well, they'd be out of a job if all of us started to heal, you know?

So you have to be pretty clear on your own issues of needing to be needed to begin with—to be able to say, well, I let go. It's like children. I have a 19-year-old and an 18-year-old. It's to be able to say, let go and let them be themselves. And that's very difficult on parents.

I can imagine the paternalistic people who have looked after us in that way will naturally have that kind of struggle within themselves to let go and say, can these people really do it?

## Have you heard about any specific incidents to give an example?

I can give you many examples, but I'm not going to give you any specific ones

because we come across it all the time. It's in every organization where Native people are, not just in Nunavik. You'll find that in every organization that exists in the Aboriginal world, in the world.

It's very common everywhere—that the minute there's an energy coming in where people are starting to stand up on their own, there's going to be a struggle.

It's because the act of letting go, I think, is one of the toughest things that human beings go through. And that of course is for anybody, no matter what race you're from, in any situation really, as a parent, as a spouse, as anything.

We easily gave up our powers—now it's hard to take them back. But I think with time this will become easier for those trying to take it back and easier for those to let go. I have a lot of hope this will happen.

When we say we are trying to find our rightful place, we are not trying to say we have no room for you. But that has always been interpreted as being anti-qallunat or anti-non-Inuit, which is not the case. But sometimes in order for us to really make our stance,

we have to be almost over-assertive because our families, our parents, were underreactive. So as a result this generation almost has to overreact to gain that balance. It's like when women who have never asserted themselves in their lives almost have to yell, scream, no, to get their point across.

So as Native peoples, I think we tend to sometimes do that, which is fine by me because it's all a process. The benefits of doing so are much greater than a few people who will be hurt

along the way. Because people have to own their own emotions. If they're hurt in the process when our intention is just to gain our own ground, then you own that yourself because I'm working on my stuff.

**A lot of the things you're talking about you've drawn from your own experiences. What kind of things have you learned along the way?**

This journey you see is a journey into myself really. That's what I am drawing on. And that helps me stay focused and focused on the right things, and not getting so caught up in other stuff that is just going to deplete me anyway.

I realize there are roadblocks but I try not to keep my focus on them. It's hard. But I do it by going to aerobics three times a week and going to yoga and doing meditation (laughter)... I just came back from my class.

But that's how I keep focused—trying to ensure that I'm caring for and nurturing myself in the process. My past has brought me to moving away from self-destructive patterns. I've been there. I've given up whatever I felt I was dependent on and whatever I felt was destroying me as a person.

**As the problems of our communities increase, these institutions have thrived... more social problems, more police, new court halls.**

**What made you go into this line of work, working at Makivik for the people?**

You know the funny thing about some of this stuff is you don't necessarily go out and seek it. It seeks you. And when you're open to that kind of thing, to

finding your sense of purpose, you tend to draw that kind of stuff toward you.

Three years ago, I ran for elections (for corporate secretary) and didn't win. It took a lot of reflection to give it another shot. But I felt going into this position would give me more umph, more opportunity for those voices to be heard.

Because if you're not elected, people sometimes tend not to give you as much voicing. I felt the voicing had to get done and I said this in my acceptance speech—it's not just for those who are here today, but those who have left us who were not able to say what they had to say.

And I think all the more so at the leadership level. You know we tend to get very political, very administrative, very this and that, but we forget the whole human development aspect of things. And we talk political lingo, but if we don't bring in that whole human development aspect, then we're building some kind of an empty shell of a self-government.

I think we have to be not just building







structures. We have to be building people. And that's going to be key to our self-government.

**Are there special issues you deal with because you are a woman? Is there an old-boys' network?**

Sure there is. But most of these guys I've known all my life—Mark T., Jackie, Peter and myself, we're all from the same community. We all grew up together. We're very different today. We have different perspectives, we have different backgrounds. In our work we went into different fields. And we are different. Men and women are quite different in their perspectives many times.

I'm not intimidated by any means by the fact that there's five males I'm working with. Yes, we have different perspectives, but I'm very direct and I'm very honest.

**Where do you find the different perspectives?**

I think the different perspectives come in the way

people have been working here for a long time. Just in the way they have tended to think. We're not just a political body. We are a body that I think has to look at all these other issues.

In my first meeting, they were all talking about this business-oriented stuff. And Simeonie said to me, "You were so quiet." He said, "I could just picture what was going through your head: 'Oh shit, what did I get myself into.'" I said, "You're quite right. I was thinking that at one point. What have I gotten myself into?" But I said, "As much as I have to adjust to the stuff you guys are going to be putting on the table, you in turn will have to adjust to what I bring to your table now." So it's a two-way street.

**So these are lot of new ideas you're bringing in?**

Some have already started. I

think especially this fall. I mean I'm only here two months. It's in the fall that I intend to bring in some further changes. And I think they'll be supportive.

With this position that I hold in particular, I'm in charge of personnel and administration.

Whereas these guys are very involved in politics. So I would see they would be very supportive with these changes because it's not necessarily stuff they've had time to look at. And hopefully they will see it positively that someone is spending time to look at these things which are very important to the Corporation.

**What kinds of changes?**

Some of the things they know because that was my platform—the youth, I spoke a little bit about leadership, the self-government plans.

But I'm going to be promoting a lot now the preparation of our own Inuit staff to ensure they're being trained, to ensure they're moving on and being challenged, and that their potential is being worked at so they can move on into other positions within the Corporation. And to be sure this is an Inuk Corporation. We should be promoting that from day one and ensuring that many positions are being filled more and more by Inuit.

**What is the ratio right now?**

Out of 350 or 380 jobs that are held in Montreal, these are Nunavik organizations that are here—Kativik School Board, Makivik, TNI, perhaps the Co-op Federation—there's like 48 Inuit. You know?

So the picture is not so great. But then again, the very fact that these organizations are in the south is kind of, uh...

**Is that another change you want to make?**

Yes, absolutely. Absolutely. I want to start looking at that whole relocation file. And again that's under my responsibility as well. For me, I understand the reasons behind people remaining here, for financial reasons and so on. But I think we have to think long-term much more than that.

I mean you say the cost of relocating is going to be incredibly high. But what about the cost of unemployment? What about the cost of the social problems and the health problems and the education problems and all of those things? Not to mention the cost of the many lives we lose every year.

That's what I mean. We start to sort of enable the problem, we start to almost add to the problem, rather than thinking very deeply and creatively about how we can get some of these things going for our people.

And 380 jobs. We sure can use that in Nunavik. We have high unemployment rates. Inuit can be trained to fill most of these positions. More and more of our kids are going to CEGEP and so on.

It's no wonder 48 in a sense because not everybody wants to live in Montreal. I know a lot of

people who are able to do some of this fine work, but they're up north and they don't want to relocate here. Because in the next couple of years I may wish to go back up myself when my kids are grown. But if I decide to go, I won't go alone. I'll bring a department with me or something (laughter)...

But we need housing, we need office space. None of that exists and we have to start planning all of that.

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**The minute there's an energy where people are standing up on their own, there's going to be a struggle.**

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# Congratulations to Ouje-Bougoumou



The Grand Council of the Crees is proud to congratulate the Cree Community of Ouje-Bougoumou on its recent award. Ouje-Bougoumou was informed that it has been chosen as a recipient of the United Nations 50 Communities award. The reason why they were selected was that they, out of all the world's communities, exemplified best the objectives of the United Nations. Ouje-Bougoumou was selected because of its contributions in the category of Human Settlement.

Ouje-Bougoumou is the most recent Cree community and was the result of a long struggle. It is heartwarming that this community is not only a testament to Cree strength and endurance in the face of adversity but is now known world wide for its innovative spirit.

The unique innovations include an environment-friendly method of providing heating and hot water for all buildings in the community, and building designs that incorporate Indigenous philosophies and ways of thinking rather than the "traditional" western architecture and designing a community program to make Ouje-Bougoumou self-sufficient for its population's housing needs.

The Grand Council believes that this is a confirmation that Indigenous people when making choices about their future can make things work.



Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)  
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## KATEJUN BEATS QUEBEC MOTOCROSS CHAMP

Sydney Coonishish knew his son, Katejun, was a natural for competitive racing when he could handle a 440 cc ski-doo with ease at 4 years of age.

But Sydney didn't know of any snowmobile competitions for 4-year-olds. So Katejun cooled his heels for a few years until he and his father took a trip to Montreal and went to a Super Motocross race.

"When he saw the spectacular show, he said he'd like to race someday," said Katejun's dad.

Katejun, now 7, roared onto the racing scene this spring, capturing first place in his first motocross competition ever. The Ouje-Bougoumou resident won the PeeWee category at a race on May 14 near Quebec City. Katejun, wearing number 101, beat out the provincial champion, who came second.

The tiny driver has finished in the top three positions since that first race. He went to Ste-Julie near Montreal on May 21 and came in second, then took third place at a race a week later in Trois-Rivieres.

"I think his self-esteem was kind of disturbed," said Sydney, explaining why Katejun came in third.

In the rush to leave for the race, Katejun's racing boots were left behind by mistake and he had to wear his hiking boots instead.



Ouje-Bougoumou resident Katejun Coonishish, 7, will be ready to ride in the biggest motocross race of them all at Montreal's Olympic Stadium on Sept. 23.

"Everyone was dressed up," said dad. "He felt out of place."

It didn't seem to do Katejun much harm, though. He was running first in the second heat when he had some bad luck. A traffic jam forced him back to fourth place, and there just wasn't time to catch up in the two remaining laps.

Katejun has been riding a 50-cc Italian-made Lem motocross bike in races for 4- to 7-year-olds. Dad says Katejun will race in another category, for 4- to 10-year-olds, as soon as they modify another bike to make it more powerful.

"We can play with the clutching, the gears, and give it a high-performance tune-up," said Sydney.

Look for Katejun's ranking at the end of the season. The way things are going for the Ojay youngster, it looks like he'll end up in front, as usual.

Text & Photos by Alison Ramsey

## O.J. kids get off on new playground

Two new playgrounds in Ouje-Bougoumou are probably the only ones around that use Native themes and design. The springy toys aren't the usual animals you see in the south. They are made to look like a canoe, a moose and a rabbit.

The colours aren't bright reds and blues like in the south either. Ojay wanted more muted colors so the \$47,000 playgrounds blend in with the rest of the community and its brown and tan color scheme. Split logs are used in the playgrounds.

Costs were kept low because local workers helped install the playgrounds. They're already a big hit with local kids, who swarmed all over the equipment even before it was completely ready.





# OPEN POSITION

## School Principal

### COMPETITION NUMBER

WEM - 578

### LOCATION OF WORK

WEMINDJI

### NATURE OF WORK

Under the authority of the Director General, through the School Supervisor, the position of School Principal includes the responsibility for the pedagogical aspects of all curriculum and resources of an elementary or secondary school pursuant to the responsibilities established by the Board.

The school principal works in collaboration with the Community Education Administrator on the administrative aspect of school management.

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor's degree or training requiring at least 16 years of schooling in a relevant field of specialization;

Personal and permanent teaching permit issued by the Minister of Education (Brevet);

Five (5) years of experience in a professional or as a senior staff trainee with at least three (3) years experience in teaching;

Bilingual (English - French);

Administrative or teaching experience in Native Education will be great assets.

*Please forward your application by July 3, 1995 to:*

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## THE NATION'S GUIDE TO MONTREAL'S SIGHTS, SOUNDS & TASTES

"You know what we like." Those were the words my uncle said before I ordered the food. The food in question was Chinese.

My Grandfather George was in town for a hospital visit - escorting him was my Uncle Simon. I had taken them to Chinatown for some Chinese Food. Exploring Montreal through new eyes can sometimes be a daunting task, especially if you don't know where to start.

By Ernest Webb



"Eggs like you wouldn't think"

As another *Nation* service we have selflessly taken it upon ourselves to introduce you to the sights, sounds and tastes of Montreal. Summer is upon us and people passing through this summer can refer to **The Nation's Guide to Montreal's Sights, Sounds and Tastes**. For some, the places referred to in this guide are old haunts, so I will try to do the familiar and the new. For starters, I will do, as the Chinese put it, "the first pleasure in life"... eating. This is a first in a series of columns where we will show you what's available in and around Montreal. This column will be concentrating on where to go for breakfast. Lunch and dinner will be in later issues.

The start to any good day is a great breakfast. There are several places which serve breakfast all day for all those late risers. So let's start with one of my all-time favourite breakfast joints. **Cosmos Coffee Bar** (5843 Sherbrooke W.) Cosmos has been voted "Best of Montreal" four times for breakfasts in a local paper's survey, making it an obvious stop. It is a small restaurant with a counter that holds about 10 stools. They set up tables on the sidewalk during the summer. Their specialty is heavenly potatoes. They boil them first and throw them on the grill with some onions and margarine and they keep chopping them until they're semi-mashed. They start developing a nice burnt crust... beautiful. There is nothing like it anywhere else. Ask them what bread they have and they will list



Ernie enjoying his breakfast at Cosmos Coffee Bar.

off about a dozen types. I recommend the bagel with cream cheese on the side. This is stick-to-your-ribs kind of food. For really big appetites try the "creation," a sandwich which includes eggs, bacon, salami, tomatoes and cheese with a side order of the famous home fries or for humungous appetites go for the "mixed grill," an omelet that is graced with six eggs (no, it is not a misprint, yes, it does say six—Ed.), bacon, salami, ham, sausage, onions, tomatoes and cheese. Cholesterol city. With your regimen of regular exercise, of course you can indulge a bit.

Or you could go a little more upscale to **Eggspectations** (198 Laurier W.) Nice setting with park benches, lots of knick knacks on the walls. Lots to choose from, even eggs Benedict. "Eggs, like you wouldn't think" (Quote from a *Nation* staffer—Ed.) Nice accompanying fresh fruit on the side.

There is also **Dusty's** (4510 Parc.) Good basic breakfast food. The potatoes aren't as good as Cosmos but it is none-the-less excellent. Again I recommend the bagel with cream cheese on the side with your bacon and eggs. Fresh squeezed orange juice. Nice!!

Up the street a couple of doors over is **Pines Pizza** (4520 Parc.) which also serves a nice breakfast. They always give you three eggs even if you order two. The sign in the window says, "Godlike Potatoes." Personally I find the spice a little too sharp.

Another resto worth checking out is **Buymore** on 388 Bernard W., just west of Parc. Wonderful and generous French toast.

I really should squeeze in one more spot, no breakfast listing would be complete without **Beauty's** (93 Mont Royal W.) At around 10 bucks a breakfast most of the price goes to the atmosphere. It's the most meeyoujaow place for breakfast.

If you are going to any of these establishments during the weekend expect a line-up for some of them during the peak breakfast hours, usually between 10:00 and 1:00. So get there earlier or later or wait in line, the wait isn't generally that long. Most of these places are away from the main downtown scene but I'm sure you'll find the trip worth it. After a nice hearty breakfast go shop (look for a shopping guide in a later issue) till you drop. Next time we will be looking at places to go for lunch. Until then, Watchyia and Waashchaamiitsuuyaana.



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## 101-BIRTHDAYS

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**I want to wish a happy 3rd birthday to my huggable little boy Darwin Gilpin on July 12. I love you so much because you're special to me. With lots of love from your mom Shelley.**



# CLASSIFIEDS

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my aunt Pamela Gilpin on July 1. Have fun on your birthday. With love, hugs and kisses, Darwin.

Happy birthday to a special person in our lives, my wife, mom and grandma Margaret R. Gilpin on July 26 and many more to come. With love, husband George, your children and grandchildren.

Happy birthday to our grandsons Darwin on July 12 and Duane Shanush on July 16. Love always, Grandpa and Grandma.

We want to wish a happy birthday to Pamela on July 1, Darwin July 12, Duane July 16 and Margaret Gilpin on July 26. From the house 89 Shabow Meskino, Eastmain.

We want to wish a happy birthday to our grandma Margaret on July 26. We will always love you and lots and lots of hugs and kisses. From Darwin and Kerwin. P.S. You're getting older. Gookom.

June 21st will be a special day for our adorable daughter Vanessa Loon Lebizay who will be turning 1. Happy 1st birthday. From Mom Betsy and Dad Richard. xoxoxoxo

Happy birthday to a very special friend of mine, Heather Kitchen. Hope your wishes come true on July 20th. From your best friend Layla A.

Happy 2nd birthday to my baby brother, Karim Azar, on July 27. From Layla A. (your big sister). Hugs and kisses. xoxoxo

We want to wish a happy birthday to our dad Don Saganash on June 26. We love you so much. From your sons Austin and Donathan Saganash. Happy birthday to my husband Don on June 26. Love always, Judy.

Happy belated birthdays to Jennifer F. and to Mabel R. on May 30. I hope you both had great birthdays. From Bella R. in Chisasibi.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my brother Paul Ratt on June 2nd and to my sisters Harriet on June 10, Maryanne on June 18. I hope you had wonderful birthdays. From sis Bella in Chisasibi. P.S. Sorry Paul, no gift, don't expect anything from me.

Happy birthday to my two lovely daughters Sherri Ratt on June 25 and Angelina on July 19. I love you both so much. From mom in Chisasibi. Also to my sweetheart Curtis Ratt who will be celebrating his fourth birthday on July 1st. With lots of love and kisses. From your fifth GooGum.

We wanna wish a happy birthday to our number 1 mom and grandma Dinah Agnes Loon on June 22. From Betsy and

granddaughter Vanessa (Sneezy) xoxoxox.

We would like to wish a happy 3rd birthday to our adorable little niece Nibin on June 16. We love you. From your aunts in Waswanipi. Hope you have fun on your birthday.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my nephew Mathias Carl Bosum (Boy) on June 29. Hope you have fun so you don't get bored on your 4th birthday. Love always, Auntie Joy S.B. from Ojag.

To a very special mom Mary S.B. I would like to wish you a happy birthday on June 29. Love always, Joy S.B. from Ojag.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my nephew Roger Steven Shecapio Neeposh on June 17. Wishing you all the best on your 3rd birthday and many more to come. Love always from your aunt C.M.N. (Mistissini)

I want to wish a happy 83rd birthday to my dad Jossie Kitchen on July the 7th. Hope you'll have a lot of fun on your special day that's as special as you are. With love, daughter Emma and Abel Happyjack.

I want to wish a happy birthday to my friend Evelyn Dixon on July the 16th and many more to come. Hope you will have a lot of fun on your birthday. From your friend always, Josephine Happyjack.

Birthday wishes going out to Louise Coonishish - May 7, Denise White - May 8, Alice Petawabano - May 14, Diane Coon - June 14 and to Karen Coon - July 1. Take care girls, Linda Mats

Happy Birthday to a very special person, our mom Florrie M. on June 14. Thank you for all you have done for us and we love you, from Irene, Jennifer, Gilbert, Bernard and Dina xoxoxoxoxo

Happy Birthday to Ena on June 4 and Marjorie on June 20. Many more to come from Florrie M.

Birthday greetings going out to a very special friend Rebecca Jolly. Hope your b-day is as special as u r. Happy 19th b-day with love Catherine, Marlene and Cynthia. Nemaska P.S. Stay cool and sober... Peace! girl

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my mom, Janie Kanatewat. Her birthday is on June 15th, 1995. "I love you so much." With love your daughter Lorraine xoxoxo

Happy belated 5th birthday to our sweet daughter Jannah Faith Tamara on June 12th, 95. Love mommy and daddy. And a special birthday greeting to my niece, Natasha Dora, who also celebrates a birthday in June... turning 8 on June 30, 1995. Love from auntie Jeanette and cousins Jannah and Clifford Loon.

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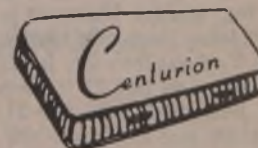
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This special b-day wish going out to our beautiful one and only daughter Patricia Blacksmith who turned 7 on June 12th. Hugs and kisses and many more to come. With love mom and dad xoxo from Was. We love you very much.

Happy 1st birthday to a special little girl Vanessa Janie Loon Lebizay on June 21st. Love always from your aunts Jennifer, Janie and Valerie, Chisasibi

Happy 1st birthday to our pride and joy Cherish Neeposh-Dick on July 7, 1995. You light up our lives, brighten our days and fill our hearts with love. Happy birthday little girl. We love BB Goo. From Mom and Dad in Nemaska.



Wishing a happy 2nd birthday to Kyle Cheezo on June 12th and a lot more to come. Love and lots of kisses from the Cheezos of Wemindji. Also: happy birthday to Leona Cheezo on June 27. Love, your family.

A very special wish goes out to Trevor Jimiken, who will celebrate his day on July 5. Happy birthday and may your wishes come true. Loves always, Sarah oxxx

I'd like to wish a happy birthday to my daddy, Trevor Jimiken, on the 5th of July. Happy Birthday dad! I love you with all my little heart. Hugs and kisses. From your son Brendan

We wanna wish happy 4th birthday to Benjamin Hughboy on July 6 and many more to come. With love, hugs and kisses. We love you from mom & dad Dale, Kerri, Eugene and Bertha

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Joni Blacksmith on June 30th. I wish you all the best to come. From your best friend Layla A.

We wanna wish "Happy 2nd Birthday" to our sweet and precious daughter Jolina Katarina Gull-Blacksmith on June 20/95. Love always mom & dad (Marlene and Albert) & Juanita & Jari xoxox

We wanna wish a "Happy 2nd Birthday" to our little sister Jolina Gull-Blacksmith on June 20/95. We love you so much & lots of hugs and kisses. From: your sister Juanita & brother Jari xoxox

I would like to wish a happy celebration to a b-day girl, Sandra Shecapio, on July 16. I guess I'll be obliged to take you out eh? (ha!) From: your band office pal, Rachel Etapp. P.S. Get ready to boogie...

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Charlot in Nemaska. I love you so much July 17th. From: your uncle Kevin in Nemaska

I would like to wish happy birthday to Wayne Jolly from Mistassini. I hope you will be happy on July 15th. We love you so much fr. your daddy Billy, the gang and grandparents Nemaska

We would like to wish happy birthday to our father Abel Jolly, you're the best father and we love you so much. With love your children from Nemaska. On July 15th.

## 103-ANNIVERSARIES

3 years ago on July 10th, 1992 our friends Claude and Sophie Gull got married. And today we'd like to wish them a very happy anniversary. And please stay away from the beer cans. From your pals, J&D. & A&L Husky (Mist.)

Wishing a happy 32nd anniversary to my parents Harry and Maggie Blacksmith on June 10, 1995. Love you both. From son always Claude Blacksmith.

I wanna wish a happy 32nd anniversary to Noom-Shum and Nookum Harry and Maggie Blacksmith on June 10, 1995. Love you both. From Chooshim Jesse Cooper.

Wishing a happy 56th wedding anniversary to my parents Caroline and Jossie Kitchen on July the 10th. With love, Emma, Abel Happyjack and your great grandchildren, Calvin, Winona, Aaron, Alannah, Kaitlyn and Darius Happyjack. xoxoxoxo.

Happy belated 25th anniversary to our parents Irene and Isaac Matches which was on June 9, 1995. Gee Mom and Dad! You're now halfway to the golden years. Don't ever forget that we love you more than anything else in this whole wide world. Love always, Samson, Peggy, Sammy Boy, Nad, Edith, Edith, Gordon, Chris, Freda, Jeremyish, Baby Linda and Rebecca in Chisasibi.

Nope! I didn't forget to congratulate my cousin, sister and also my best friend Betsie Matches who graduated and finally got her diploma in Montreal on June 9. I wish you all the best and may all your dreams come true in the future. Most of all, good luck to your college plans. From your friend who misses you a lot and who is in Chisasibi. Love, in friendship, Edith Gunner. I hope to see you soon. P.S. (Remember this) the time right now is 2:47 p.m. (Seven)

Happy 43rd anniversary to my parents Sarah and William Ratt on July 24. I love you both. From Bella in Chisasibi.

Happy 13th Anniversary going out to Emily and Sonny Mianscum on June 26th. We wish all the best to come. Thank-you for everything and your understanding. We love you and you're

everything to us. I love you sooo much. Love always: Angela, Sony & Elijah Mianscum (your children). Kisses and hugs.

## 104-GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to Renata Wesley who graduated from Sec. 5 at Percival High in Val d'Or on June 26. Good luck in your future studies in college. From your friend Demerice in Eastmain.

We would like to congratulate Bernetta Saganash on her graduation on June 16th, 1995. We wish you all the best. From Don and Judy, Donathan and Austin Saganash (Waswanipi)

I would like to congratulate the Secondary 5 students in Waswanipi who graduated on June 16, 1995 and good luck to all of the graduates on the careers you've chosen for your future. The graduates are: Jack Otter, Marcel Gull, Gillman Ottereyes, Bernetta Saganash, Bella Blacksmith, Eric Grondin, Derrick Neeposh, Robert Martin, Stella Icebound, Joanne Ottereyes, Jenny Cooper. From Claude Blacksmith in Waswanipi.

Way to go boys! Congratulations to Nelson Mianscum and Justus Coon Come, graduating from high school 94-95. Good luck in your future endeavours, with love, Linda Matoush xoxo

Congratulations to Dina and Xavier who are graduating on June 17, 1995 from Florrie, Jennifer, Gilbert and Bernard Mayappo

I would like to congratulate my best friend Betsie Matches on her graduation on June 9, 1995 in Montreal. Friend always Mary M. in Chisasibi

Congratulations to our sister (Boujoumelly) who will be graduating on June 21. Good luck and the very best for your future dreams. Don't party too much from Jimbo, Bill, John, Kirby, Huberty, Nemaska

Congratulations to the Sec. V Graduates in Nemaska. My brother Norman Jolly and Louise Tanoush, Freddie Wapachee, Joshua Iseroff, Maryann Blackned, Lee-Ann Neeposh, Lilly-belle Jolly and Brenda-Jane Wapachee. May you all take good care of yourselves. And may your wishes come true. Kevin, Nemaska

## 300-PERSONALS

A happy Father's Day going out to my Dad John Shecapio Blacksmith from Ouje-Bougoumou. Also to Jimmy Bosum. Hope you two have a nice day. We love you both. From Annette, Carl, Skinny and Googooes.

Happy Father's Day goes out to our son Willie J. Trapper (Wallou) and also to son-in-laws, Jean Baptiste Loon, James R. Neeposh and Donald Mapachee. Enjoy this special day boys!!!! All our

love Boyce and Flora.

A belated Father's Day wish to our dad Morley Etapp. All the words we find still seem inadequate and few to tell you how much love there is in every thought of you. Happy Father's Day. From your daughters and son with love. xoxoxo

Happy Father's Day wishes going out to Abraham Snowboy (Joomshoom Ninja). We love you so much it hurts! From your grandkids, Katrina, Stella Jane, Brittany, Ryansh and Albetsh Gilpin.

I want to wish a happy Father's Day to my dad John S. B. To me dad you are the greatest. Thank you for being my dad. I wouldn't trade you for anyone else even if I was offered a million bucks. Love and hugs. Joy from Ojay.

We would like to wish a happy Father's Day to our very special grandpa Sam Blacksmith in Nemaska on June 18, 1995. We love you very much and we miss you a lot. Love, your granddaughters in Mistissini, Charlotte, Bella and Queenie. xoxoxo

Happy Father's Day to our special dad James Neeposh. You are the world's best dad belongs to us. This day will always be special to us. We love you so much dad. Love always, Daphne and Patrick. xoxoxoxo

Happy Father's Day to my husband Boyce Trapper. Hope you enjoy this special day. I thank God for a husband like you and your caring ways. I love you. Your wife, Flora.

I would like to say happy Father's Day to a special dad (Abraham Snowboy) who is always there for me and my kids. And I would like to say I love you very much even if I don't show it sometimes but deep in my heart there's a special place for you. Thanks Dad, for everything. From your oldest daughter Jane Snowboy Gilpin.

To a very special person with loving thoughts of you on Father's Day, Reggie Bosum (Sr.). You've given so much, done so much and become so special that you'll always be lovingly remembered. Thank you Dad! Paul and Emma Mianscum.

A happy father's day note going out to Nelson Mianscum. You are special in so many ways. We hope this day will turn out to be the best. Kiss and hugs going out your way. We love you, you're the best! From Stephanie and Abby.

A father's day poem going out to our one and only special dad, Jimmy Bosum. Dad you are special in so many ways, You are always there to care for us each day. Whenever our tears start to fall, you are always there to stop them all, and whenever life gets rough, you are always there standing tough. Now we hope that you can see just how much you mean to us! We love you dad! Happy father's



# CLASSIFIEDS

day! Love daughters Stephanie and Vicky Bosum.

**Happy Father's Day** to our dad Robbie Dick. We love you dearly. From your daughters, Amy, Leslie, April and Cherish. xoxox

**We're a little late** but we'd like to wish a happy father's day to a very special father, Robbie Dick. Being with you makes our lives complete. We love you. From Edna and your baby girl Cherish xoxox

**I just want to wish everyone** to have a good and safe summer. Don't party all summer. Take care everyone and to my buddy (my head) in Nemaska. Take care friend. I love you Kevin

## 500-MISC.

**We would like to say happy belated Mother's Day** to (the greatest mother God ever created) Agnes Petawabano. We love you sooooo much!!! From Mike and Caitlin.

**A happy belated Mother's Day** wishes going out to Emily Snowboy. Did you think I would forget your special day Mom? First thing I'd like to say is that you are very special to me and you mean the world to me. When I have problems you are the person I think of when I need someone to talk to. You are a friend and a mother to me that's why I say you are a very special person and I love you very much. P.S. I couldn't make you a risk mash dague. I didn't stay in the bush that long to make one. Maybe next year. From your oldest daughter Jane Snowboy Gilpin in Eastmain.

**A happy belated Mother's Day** wish going out to Goo Goom Emily Snowboy. From Stella Jane, Katrina, Brittany, Ryansh and Albetsh Gilpin. P.S. We love you very much. Eastmain.

**We would like to wish a happy Father's Day** to our Dad Johnny Swallow. With love from, Dolores and Maryanne.

**Desperately seeking sitter.** Looking for baby-sitter for the summer (to mid-August) in Ottawa. Two girls, ages 4, (twins). Pay to be discussed based on experience and qualifications. Must be willing to clean house and cook meals. At least 16 years and up. If interested, please call (613) 246-1655 (days).

**Looking for 2 roommates** for the year starting this coming fall in the Ottawa-Hull area. Must be responsible. Plan to be in this area for the year (at least 10 months). At least 18 years and up. Willing to share expenses on a house (approx. \$400/month) Please call immediately so a lease can be signed. Sex and race of no importance. (819) 246-9034 after 6:00 p.m. Serious replies only.

**Hi to Maggie Wapachee,** Charlene Hester and Shelly Stephen in

Waskaganish. By the way, how are you guys? Sorry I didn't say goodbye when I left. Maggie, give a hug and kiss to Melody for me. Shelly and I can't wait to hold Craig again. As for Charlene I never got to see Darwyn. I miss hanging out with you all. From a friend in Val d'Or. Angela by the way I came back on May 27.

**On June 19** a special girl will celebrate her 3rd birthday. Jamie (Dahgoose) Linton. May your day be as special as you are. With love and kisses, Aunt Susie.

**I would like to wish a happy Father's Day** to my wonderful dad Larry Tomatuk. With love from Kerriane.

**Happy Father's Day** to Kenneth Nicholls. From all your crazy sons. May you live for another hundred years wrinkle-free.

**Happy Father's Day** to my pa George in Little House. Heard about your run-in with the law. We'll sue those buggers. Ha! Neil.

**We would love to congratulate our beautiful, loving daughter Arlene** on her Junior High School graduation on June 26 in North Bay, Ont. She will be attending Senior high school this fall 1995-96. We are very proud of her. She fills our hearts with pride and joy. There is a promise from the Lord in his word to our daughter and as to the other children too. In Ephesians 6: 1, 2, 3. 1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. 2. Honour your father and mother. Which is the first commandment with a promise. 3. That it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. May the Lord watch over you and protect you for the rest of your life and may God bless you too. We love you Arlene and you are very special to us. Love always, Mom and Dad and from your brothers Joey and J.J.



**Get well soon Mary Ann Matoush MacLeod.** From your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. We all miss you and send our prayers for a speedy recovery.

**I would like to wish a happy father's day** to a great dad, Blazo. I love you so much and God bless you from your rascal son, Tristan Voyageur

**We would like to wish Simeon Longchap** a happy father's day. We love you and God bless, from your daughters

Linda, Karen and Jennifer.

**Happy Father's Day** to my grampa Sam. Thank you for being a great dad for my mommy! From Egoomagoo (Peter)

**Edna and Robbie Visitor,** where in the world are you guys? I've been won-

dering about you guys lately. From Mistissini.

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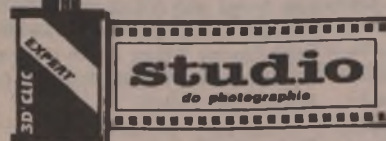
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THE Communication tool for ANYONE who needs  
information about James Bay Cree people,  
communities, businesses and organizations.

## 14th Annual Indian Day

AND

### Cree Indian Centre's 25th Anniversary

## July 8 & 9, 1995

AT THE

### Cree Indian Centre 95 JACULET, CHIBOUGAMAU

Demonstrations æ Games æ Feast æ Music

**FREE  
EVERYONE WELCOME!**



CHISASIBI TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION AND CHISASIBI SPORTS & RECREATION ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS

# Blue Rodeo IN CONCERT



FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1995 AT 8 P.M.

IN JOB'S MEMORIAL GARDENS IN CHISASIBI, DOORS OPEN AT **7 P.M.**

## \$30 PER TICKET

\$40 AT THE DOOR/ADVANCED TICKETS  
WILL BE ON SALE AT THE RADIO STATION IN  
CHISASIBI ON MONDAY JULY 3, 1995

**STRICTLY NO VIDEO CAMERAS, CASSETTE RECORDERS, AND CAMERAS ALLOWED**  
**NO SMOKING, NO FOOD AND NO DRINKS INSIDE THE RINK**  
**ABSOLUTELY NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ALLOWED**

TICKETS ARE NOT REFUNDABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE RADIO STATION AT 855-2527 OR CHISASIBI SPORTS & RECREATION ASSOCIATION AT 855-2878